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<h1>TRANSMITTAL FORM</h1> <p><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i></p>	<b>Application Number</b>	10/028,172	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	December 21, 2001	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Yoichi TAKAHAMA	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1645	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	To be assigned	
<b>Total Number Of Pages In This Submission</b>	5	<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	322732000401

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**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declarations <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement; PTO form 1449; and 2 references <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return postcard
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**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT**

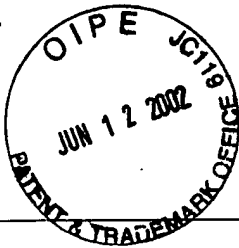
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Date	June 3, 2002

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PATENT  
Docket No. 322732000401

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Yoichi TAKAHAMA, et al.

Serial No.: 10/028,172

Filing Date: December 21, 2001

For: DIAGNOSTIC REAGENT FOR  
HEPATITIS C VIRUS INFECTION

Examiner: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: 1645

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of documents number 1-14 and 17-18 were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related application Serial Number 08/850,328, filed May 2, 1997, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) and M.P.E.P. 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
  - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \* is enclosed.
  - ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly; no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below and a check in the amount of \* is enclosed.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to

charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **322732000401**. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: June 3, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Bruce D. Grant  
Registration No. 47,608

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